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From: Erik Schoen, Executive Director

Re: Public comments made to Nevada Department of Insurance

Board Members in regards to Consideration of Benchmark

Plan

Date: September 21, 2012

The Human Services Network (HSN) is a dynamic collaborative of health and human service providers from throughout the Truckee Meadows and beyond. With over 40 members serving more than an estimated 500,000 Nevadans annually, HSN's mission is "to create connections, share information, strengthen providers, and support and advocate for good public policy thus assuring the provision of quality human services in Northern Nevada."

Comments to the SS HIX Committee

The Human Services Network supports the selection of the benchmark plan that provides the most comprehensive coverage. Of the three plans remaining, this appears to be Plan D.

Not only should access to a wide array of needed services assist in keeping the overall costs of medical coverage down by reducing the likelihood of more expensive procedures down the line (i.e., the cost of a flu shot versus hospitalization for complications from the flu), there is an even more important benefit for those who believe that we are our brothers' and sisters' keepers and it is this: our lives collectively and individually are simply better when we support one another as good neighbors should and do.

The Human Services Network hopes, too, that the Department of Insurance board will -- at the appropriate time and in the appropriate manner -- expand rehabilitative and habilitative services to cover a wide number of medical conditions, not just for autism-spectrum disorders and certain inherited metabolic diseases.

Thank you,

Erik Schoen, Executive Director Human Services Network